

PUBLIC OPINION

DO WE WANT SOCIALISM?

Editor of Farmer:—
Under the caption of "The Teachings of Socialism" there appeared in your issue of the 23rd ult., a dissertation on the attributes of that social theory.

A personal of the same has, as its prime effect, the forming of the conviction that someone has been, and, in fact, is, in the throes of an enervating dream. It is indeed refreshing to let one's thoughts wander off to fields of pleasant imagination, now and then, but when the practice becomes chronic, a mal-condition is the result, rather than a benefit. And when the habit is communicated to and grows in the lives of a number of men, and such persons are engaged in coming in contact with others, the ill assumes the proportions of a pest, and is likewise as odious.

Writer does not feel that his time would be well spent in wasting a quantity of it replying to the entire article in question, but there is one little paragraph which struck him as particularly worthy of answer to which, just at this time might prod someone out of his deleterious vision, and at the same time furnish practice to the writer on the question of "What is Socialism?"

Our Socialist exponent says, "A misunderstanding of the meaning of the Socialist system, and the fact that it has led fools and knaves to pronounce it a system of blood, fire and pitch-forks."

Is all the world peopled with fools and knaves? For the eyes of all the world are fixed on the courageous conduct of Socialism in Europe. There they see Socialism not in actual theory, it is true, but only in its attempts to grasp the helm, and the logical conclusion is, what an epoch of terrorism would result were these people to seize entire charge of matters.

If the universe is so overpopulated with "fools and knaves," as our Socialist friends suspect, the fact accounts for the presentment of a "system of blood, fire and pitch-forks" in condemnation of Socialist tactics. France is afflicted with the cancer of Socialism and writhes in civic pain; Spain suffers terribly with the malignant malady, and the ancient ideals and high morality of Italy are being smothered.

It is interesting to note that the decay of French supremacy has been coincident with the growth of Socialism, and the destruction of old time French morality has been only one of the wayside marks on the path of Socialism. The national character of France before Marx's disciples spread their fanciful illusions among a sober, industrious, good-living people, and compare it with the France of today with Anarchy and materialism, crime and avarice, of immoralities contending for the mastery of her once false theories.

And if we dare cast our ken in the direction of Spain, the spectacle is even worse. There the rebellion of "Criminals and cowardly desperadoes" impelled to their dastardly acts by Persecution, presents itself to the view. Anarchists and Socialists have wept bitterly, especially in Europe at the death of Ferrer, but how many of them have any compassion for the innocent nun, slaughtered like cattle in the hands of bloody Barcelona, to satisfy the rage of curbed Anarchy? And yet it is not ended. All over Europe, Anarchists, Socialists, and Radicals of every description, so long as they are opposed to the reigning system of government hold daily meetings, and in flaming terms denounce and threaten the Church, law and in fact, anything and everything that exerts a restraining influence.

Without a doubt, Socialists will reply that they are being unjustly confused with rabid Anarchists, and others with whom they have no sympathy. It is true that Anarchism and Socialism are entirely different in theory, and it is likewise a fact, especially among American Socialists that there are men who would no more stoop to such acts as are referred to than they would think of substituting carbolic acid for their morning beverage, but these latter, it would seem, belong to that good-natured, Rip Van Winkle genus, who look at shining surfaces, and allow themselves to be lulled into tranquil lethargies by the glib tongue of a Socialistic disciple who prefers skimming from existing conditions and star gazing, to a courageous, manful struggle on the field of life.

Yes, Socialism and Anarchy are quite different in theory, but where is there Anarchism that there is not Socialism, and where is there Socialism that there is not Anarchism? Why did Socialists join with Anarchists throughout the Continent, in protest against the death of Ferrer? Why did they riot with them? Why did they assault with them the churches which had ministered to the people for ages, and desecrate them? Why, in fact, have they, on every notable occasion, leagued with Anarchists in denunciation of reputable law and order?

When Socialists helped fly the fiery banners of Anarchism in the streets of Barcelona and Paris, were they then leading their followers to that mystical "People of Truth and Justice" of which our Socialistic friend speaks? If Socialistic justice comprehends the cowardly slaying of women and children, the world is too full of it already.

Present conditions may be bad, and the burden of life may fall most heavily on some than on others, but is it not better

to bear those ills we have, than fly to others that we know not of?

JOANNUS CORNELIUS, JUNIOR.

WHAT WOULD SOCIALISM DO IN BRIDGEPORT?

To Editor Farmer:—
Sir—Yours of Monday contains a long letter on Socialism, and the writer seems to have got completely muddled, causing him to write some very valuable space. Cannot Mr. H. J. Horsefield outline his reforms in a few simple sentences and tell us where the ideas he so extravagantly expresses have been tried and with what result?

I have met Blatchford, the leader of English Socialists, and a poor specimen he is too. His paper the "Clarion" is shrieking for war against Germany, and also for conscription in England which means every English man adult should be trained in the art of murder, manslaughter or war. Either word is right. As a Socialist I should be advocating state education, but he sends his own children to a private school although there are state equipped schools nearer his house. Of what consistency?

When the Ferrer case has been utilized as a lever for the propagation of the most vicious of Socialistic doctrines, Ferrer was an Anarchist and planned a revolution. He was caught, re-handled, and helped off the earth with a few bullets, but the hue and cry against Church and State has been raised by Socialists in all lands. If a man tried to subvert an American constitution or haul down the stars and stripes he would be shot on the spot. Ferrer was no martyr. He would pay the same penalty in every country.

But will this self-appointed teacher of Barnum avenue tell us how we would be managed by Socialists. Would we use trolleys or monoplanes to get to work? Would our stores be worked on the Bellamy dream plan? Would he leave the garments? Would the sober man who saves \$1,000 after ten years hard work and sinks it in real estate be a land monopolist, capitalist and foe to the community? Such are the things awaiting answer that lies in the mind of

THE TAXPAYERS' LEAGUE.

Editor Farmer:—
I beg leave for space in your valuable paper for a few remarks in connection with the present controversy regarding the "tax-payers league."

Following closely the formation of the said league, to my mind and to the mind of a great majority of the thinking people of this community, it became apparent that there was another motive back of the organization of the said league than to protest against the granting of an increase to the firemen, and if not it was started radically wrong. It would be open to all citizens, unrestricted in its membership, for it is largely the citizens who are ruled out for the restriction to membership the constituents of our government. In time of war it is always the common people who must and are willing to bear arms in defense of their country, to protect their rights guaranteed to them under the constitution, whose fundamental principle was, "Equal rights to all men with special privileges to none." It is they who are first to the front and last to return, they from the anvil and the plough, the mine and the hod, and if this occasion should again demand it, which I hope it never will, but I fear the present all-absorbing greed for gain will compel it, they will again be the first to the front. On them the burden always falls.

Hence it is only fair and honest to allow all citizens, regardless of whether they pay taxes or rent or board, to call it not a "tax-payers" but a "Citizens League," dedicating it fearlessly to the same broad, honest principles that are at the basis of our free government, "Equal rights to all, special privileges to none."

As far as the raise in the firemen's salary, I think they are entitled to it. They, by their almost constant attendance upon the safety of the city, are verily now giving their pound of flesh in return for a paltry wage. Not only should they have their raise, but there should be one more night extra at each house.

One who can see a whole through a wall can also see cause for such. It is the fear on the part of the tax-payers that the new administration get after them, those who will raise their right hand to heaven and swear by their Maker the value of their property, when they wouldn't sell for twice the amount.

If these paid their just and proportionate share of the city tax, not only could the poor firemen have their increase but the tax rate would be largely decreased to the great multitude of small taxpayers. Not only this but the city would have enough to keep its streets and other departments in far better condition than at present.

So please Mr. Tax-Dodgers, be honest, have a little civic pride, be true Americans. Take your defeats manfully and do not try to force your conservatism over the reform administration, which was invested with the government of the city by the votes of the majority of the people.

In closing I am reminded of an old adage.

"While they lived they lived in clover.
When they died they died all over."
Yours for honest government and equalization of taxes.

J. J. S.

MORE DANVILLE PROOF.

Beautiful Trimmed Millinery.
A selection offered at special prices at W. E. Halligan's, 889 Broad St., once advertisement.

Radford B. Smith's Sale.

This week's domestic sale at Radford B. Smith's is the last until after the holidays. Next week the dolls, toys, fancy goods, etc., that are coming in now will be advertised and sold at the well known low prices that prevail at this store. Remember this, if the Christmas money is to be made go as far as possible.

Christmas Will Soon Be Here.

You want a doll carriage for the little one. You will find the best assortment in our store. Don't forget to see them. A nice desk for a child makes a good Christmas present. We have good ones in the mission finish with chair to match for \$3.50. We are agents for Hub ranges, the best in the world. The Glanier Furniture Co., 1122 Main St.

Euphonic Player Pianos.

Once again the music loving people of the city are urged to hear the new "Made in Bridgeport" Waterman's Euphonic Player piano now on exhibition at 445 Franklin avenue, next to the office of the Crawford Laundry. These players will remain on exhibition for only a short time longer and as they are a Bridgeport product and far in advance of any other player pianos on the market the opportunity to hear them should be embraced. The show rooms are open daily from 9 until 12 o'clock a. m., from 2 until 5 and from 7 until 9 o'clock p. m.

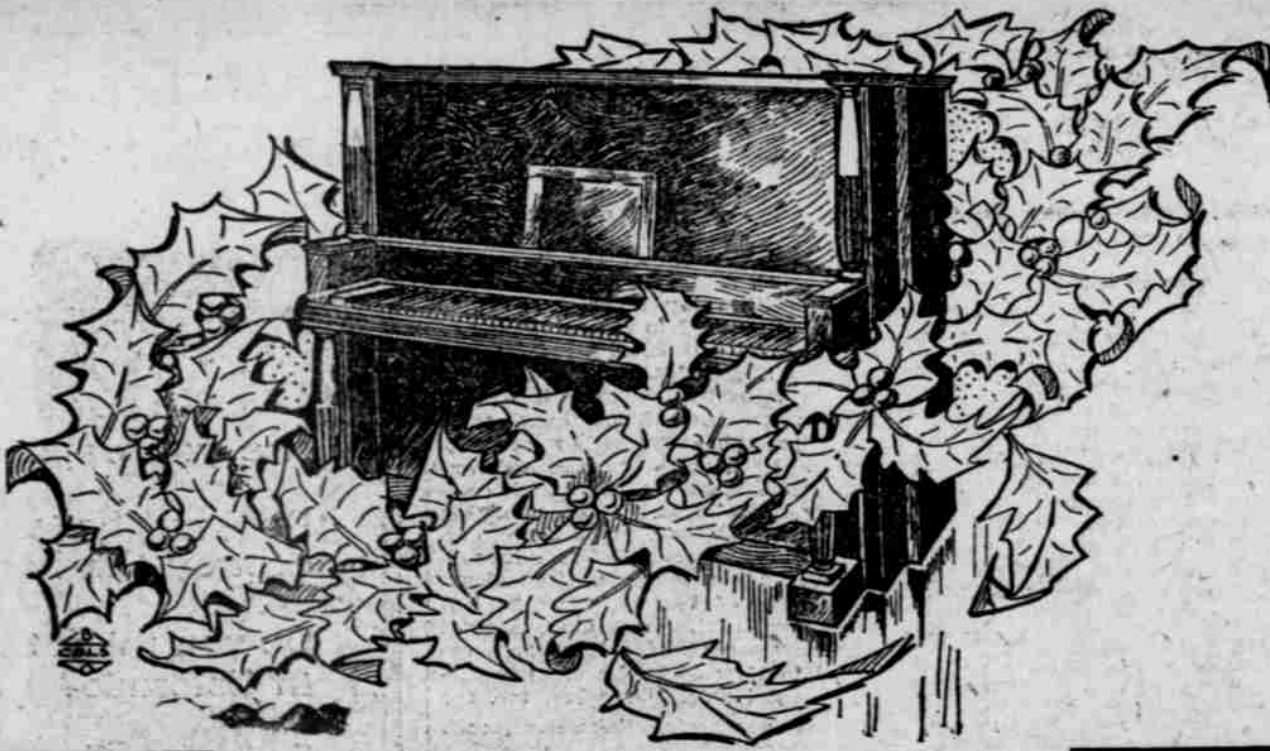
Seen the New Convertible Overcoat?

Well, it is a style that is finding favor on every side. Davis and Savard are displaying the real thing in convertible overcoat styles—the only perfectly fitting kind. It will be a pleasure to show you this new addition to the overcoat family. Every other wanted style and fabric is ready when you are—and that will be very soon, no doubt, for the weather now calls for outer protection, and this is only a foretaste of what is coming. There isn't a wanted overcoat style missing from our large and complete assortment of the newest styles. Of course this is the home of the Stetson. Bloch smart clothes, both overcoats and suits. Our juvenile section is splendidly ready to meet all the needs of boys and children—suits, overcoats, sweaters and furnishings. Then there are the world famous "Regal" shoes for men and women—the only shoes made in quarter sizes—hence a fit for every foot.

Forced to Sell Out—Building Sold for Theatre.

The stock, fixtures and everything belonging to the Bradshaw Clothing company of 1294 Main street must be closed out inside of thirty days and be turned into cash at once at tremendous low prices. This is a clothing chance of a lifetime for men and boys. Not a dollar's worth of clothing is to be taken into their fine new store at 1057 East Main street, and nothing will be reserved. Clothing not sold by that time will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Come and bring your family and friends to one of the greatest sales in the history of Bridgeport and vicinity. The cost is lost sight of for cash counts more than cost at this sale. Remember, that you cannot buy again at such low prices for you have never seen it like. Come early and get your pick from this fine stock before it is too late. Clothing dealers wishing to purchase must apply at the rear entrance before 9 a. m. each day. This sale begins on Saturday at 9 a. m., sharp, and they are in need of twelve clothing salesmen at once. Be sure and look for the big red sign at Bradshaw Clothing company's store, located at 1294 Main street, near Congress street.

Advertise in the Farmer.



BUY NOW

All prospective piano buyers who anticipate purchasing a piano for Christmas should make an early selection. Now is the Best time. The selection could not be improved upon in either number or quality. **CHRISTMAS PIANOS CAN BE PURCHASED NOW AND DELIVERED LATER. NO CHARGE FOR STORAGE.**

Player Pianos make it possible for anyone with no knowledge of music or the piano to successfully and correctly render any composition whatsoever. Player Pianos bearing a well known name can be purchased from us at moderate prices and on very easy terms.

Pianos at all prices can be had at our warerooms. We do not confine our business to the sale of high priced or low priced pianos only. You can buy a piano here for any amount you care to invest. If you prefer a low priced piano to start with, we can fit you out with a used upright as low as \$100, or a new upright piano bearing a popular name at the extremely reasonable price of \$175.

WISSNER PIANOS

should be examined by everyone who expects to buy a piano of the very highest grade. Wissner Pianos are sold on their merits. That's why we court comparisons. We are always glad when people compare the Wissner with other pianos of a high grade. The superiority of the Wissner is so manifest that anyone with no knowledge of piano construction at all can easily discern it. Prices and terms reasonable considering their high standard.

OPEN SATURDAY EVENINGS.

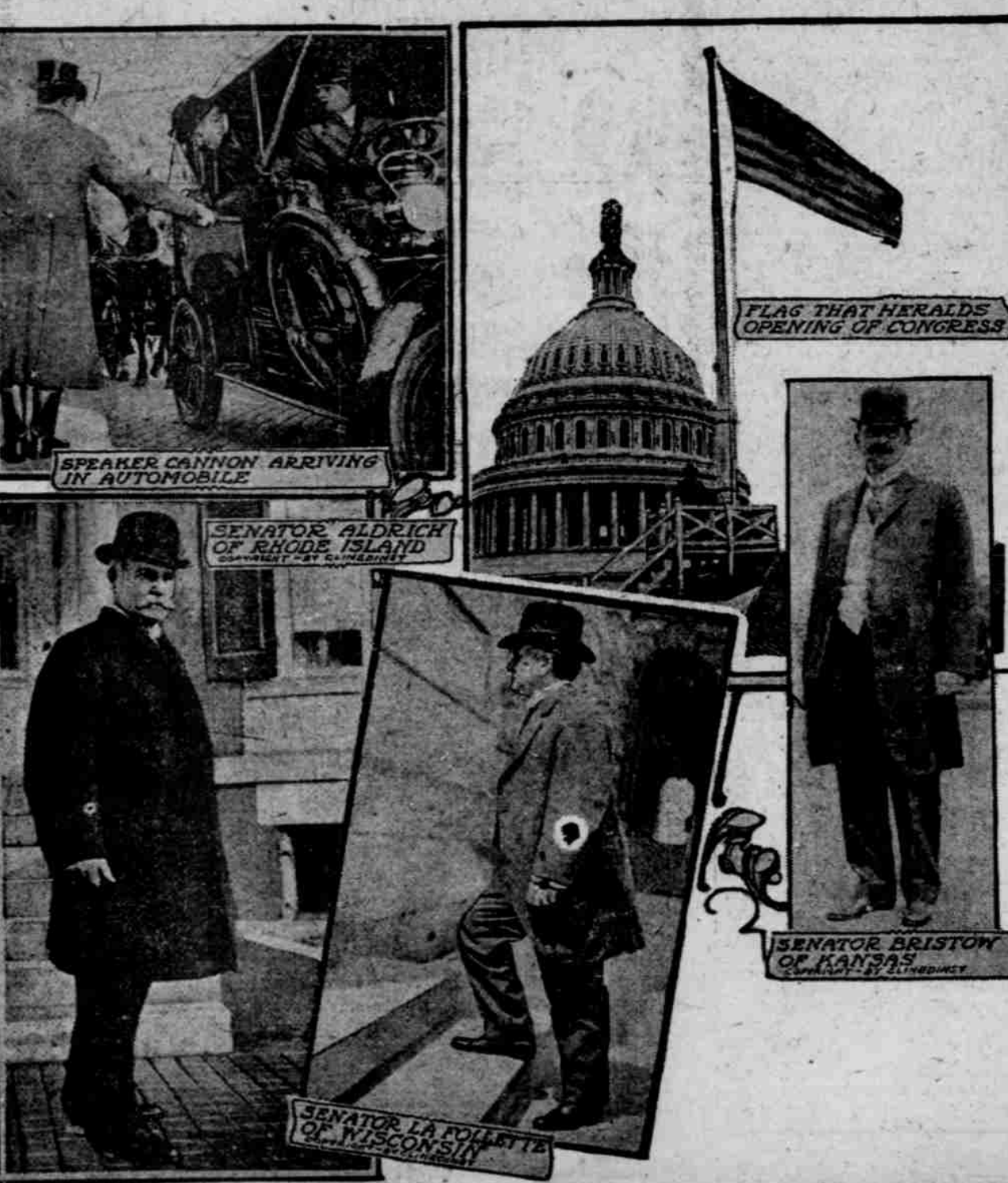
Wissner Warerooms

Broad and State Sts.

**PIANOS
TUNED
MOVED
REPAIRED**

**PIANOS
RENTED
\$4
MONTHLY**

FLAG THAT FLIES AS CONGRESS OPENS DEC. 6, SOME NOTABLES SOON TO BE ON SCENE



TRY FARMER "WANT ADS."

AUDITOR'S REPORT

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, AUDITOR'S OFFICE, Dec. 1st, 1909.
Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures of the City of Bridgeport, First District, for the month ending November 30th, 1909.

	Appropriations for 1909-1910.	Amount expended month of Nov.	Previously Expended	Total Expended to date.	Balance Unexpended.
Advertising, printing and stationery,	2,000 00	1,299 38	1,299 38	1,299 38	700 62
Ambulance and emergency,	6,174 25	577 14	3,639 25	4,216 39	2,057 86
Apportionment, board of,	200 00	589 00	4,777 69	5,666 69	4,441 31
Assessors' salaries etc.,	10,108 00	2,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	8,000 00
Bonds, betterment,	2,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	0 00
Bonds, improvement,	10,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	0 00
Bonds, Municipal,	10,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	10,000 00	0 00
Bonds, re-issue,	3,000 00	2,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00	0 00
Bonds, improvement No. 2,	3,000 00	2,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00	0 00
Bonds, voting machines,	1,500 00	1,500 00	1,500 00	1,500 00	0 00
Bridges, Superintendent of,	510 00	510 00	510 00	510 00	0 00
Building Commissioners,	3,800 00	394 96	2,294 63	2,689 59	1,110 71
Building Laws, revision of,	8,500 00	8 65	8 65	8 65	8,491 35
City Attorney, expenses under ordinance,	500 00	462 57	462 57	462 57	47 43
City Attorney, expenses special,	500 00	248 00	248 00	248 00	183 00
City Hall, fuel, light, etc.,	1,800 00	1,402 19	1,402 19	1,402 19	1,138 75
Collector's office,	6,230 00	406 63	3,416 22	3,522 85	2,407 15
County tax,	8,538 91	8,538 91	8,538 91	8,538 91	0 00
Culverts, Rooster River,	2,700 00	2,700 00	2,700 00	2,700 00	0 00
Dog tax,	3,256 55	3,256 55	3,256 55	3,256 55	0 00
Dog Warden,	1,192 00	292 00	900 00	1,192 00	0 00
Election expenses, enrollment for primaries,	685 00	685 00	685 00	685 00	0 00
Election expenses, miscellaneous,	2,000 00	1,743 22	1,743 22	1,743 22	256 78
Election expenses, registration,	6,223 00	2,477 56	2,038 63	4,516 19	1,706 81
Electric expenses, Selectmen,	220 00	215 24	215 24	215 24	4 76
Garbage disposal,	29,608 00	2,027 40	18,884 65	20,912 05	8,695 95
Garbage disposal, special,	6,500 00	93 00	93 00	93 00	6,407 00
Health,	6,876 00	364 83	3,698 16	4,062 99	2,813 01
Hotel, Licenses,	700 00	650 00	650 00	650 00	50 00
Interest on funded debt,	31,892 50	1,260 00	18,620 00	17,360 00	14,532 50
Land records, indexing,	1,000 00	1,000 00	1,000 00	1,000 00	0 00
Library fund,	19,805 09	1,840 99	7,997 79	9,738 99	10,066 10
Lights,	6,800 00	3,256 55	3,256 55	3,256 55	3,543 45
Liquor and dog agent,	1,192 00	292 00	900 00	1,192 00	0 00
Main street, new macadam,	3,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00	0 00
Memorial Day,	900 00	794 60	794 60	794 60	105 40
Military commutation tax,	14,759 20	14,759 20	14,759 20	14,759 20	0 00
Miscellaneous,	2,500 00	574 62	574 62	574 62	1,925 38
Personal damages,	600 00	600 00	600 00	600 00	0 00
Police and charities' building,	6,130 00	283 55	1,997 95	2,281 50	3,848 50
Poor, care of,	85,395 63	8,436 72	58,823 76	67,260 48	18,135 15
Poor, care of, deficiency,	25,000 00	25,000 00	25,000 00	25,000 00	0 00
Poor, care of, tuberculosis hospital,	1,720 00	63 34	412 87	476 21	1,243 79
Poor, care of, engine, wiring, etc.,	500 00	25 42	85 00	110 42	389 58
Probate court,	955 00	89 75	489 89	579 64	375 36
Ref. Board of,	1,000 00	68 64	389 84	458 48	541 52
Road Oil,	1,000 00	1,000 00	1,000 00	1,000 00	0 00
Roads and bridges,	6,500 00	6,500 00	6,500 00	6,500 00	0 00
Salaries,	6,484 00	1,038 03	1,801 90	2,839 93	3,644 07
Schools, improvement,	394,500 73	26,500 73	149,897 51	166,398 24	188,102 49
School, buildings, etc.,	79,220 00	6,011 31	65,524 45	71,535 76	7,684 24
Services and fees,	1,200 00	1,200 00	1,200 00	1,200 00	0 00
Sinking fund,	6,500 00	6,500 00	6,500 00	6,500 00	0 00
State highway construction,	6,500 00	6,500 00	6,500 00	6,500 00	0 00
Street grading,	2,000 00	37 72	1,962 28	2,000 00	0 00
Town clerk's office,	9,650 00	835 21	5,367 73	6,202 94	3,447 06
Trees, removal of,	300 00	300 00	300 00	300 00	0 00
Truant officers,	2,272 50	201 50	1,367 00	1,468 50	804 00
Totals,	\$761,728 77	\$66,881 65	\$443,937 25	\$518,824 90	\$242,903 87

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Advertising, printing and stationery,	\$ 5,000 00	592 58	9,789 13	10,381 71	1,618 29
Appraisers' services,	2,000 00	221 06	1,541 96	1,763 02	1,236 98
Asphalt street repairs,	1,000 00	.....	1,000 00	1,000 00	.....
Barnum school fund,	50 00	.....	50 00	50 00	.....
Bonds, Redemption,	6,000 00	.....	6,000 00	6,000 00	.....
Bonds, Fire Department,	2,000 00	.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	.....
Bonds, Improvement,	7,000 00	.....	7,000 00	7,000 00	.....
Bonds, Yellow Mill Bridge,	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....
Bridges, care of and repair,	10,000 00	588 74	6,511 72	7,400 47	2,599 53
Bridge, Yellow Mill, special,	2,000 00	.....	.....	.....	2,000 00
Bridges, Superintendent of City court,	510 00	85 00	85 00	1,713 82	4,246 18
Claims committee,	11,400 00	797 06	85 10	85 10	446 90
Common road repairs,	550 00	.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	.....
Congress St. Bridge,	2,000 00	33,427 62	148,598 61	171,026 23	79,543 06
Crosswalks,	1,500 00	.....	1,500 00	1,500 00	.....
Crosswalk repairs,	1,500 00	.....	1,500 00	1,500 00	.....
Culvert, Aretic street,	5,000 00	1,455 55	3,324 94	4,778 49	221 51
Curb and Gutter, setting back,	2,000 00	.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	.....
Fire department,	152,700 00	12,932 49	84,058 21	97,040 70	55,659 30
Fire department, special,	17,150 00	1,582 74	12,447 91	13,930 65	3,219 35
Harbor Master,	1,500 00	118 28	765 74	925 02	574 98
Interest on funded debt,	50,852 50	.....	28,845 00	28,845 00	34,007 50
Interest on temporary debt,	300 00	.....	300 00	300 00	.....
Land damages, general,	2,850 00	.....	2,740 96	2,740 96	109 04
Land damages, special,	2,700 00	.....	2,699 51	2,699 51	6 49
Legal expenses,	1,400 00	.....	1,381 61	1,381 61	118 39
Lighting,	\$7,865 92	4,206 29	28,115 68	33,321 97	25,543 95
Lighthouse street straightening,	1,000 00	.....	.....	.....	1,000 00
Macadam, new,	5,000 00	.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....
Macadam road repairs,	40,000 00	629 71	26,826 66	27,356 37	2,743 63
Miscellaneous,	3,000 00	828 90	699 02	1,327 92	1,672 08
Park Department,	24,750 00	1,387 61	17,147 14	18,534 76	6,215 24
Park Dept., Fayerweather Is.,	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00	3,000 00	.....
Park Dept., special,	2,350 00	.....	.....	.....	2,350 00
Pavement repairs,	2,000 00	.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	.....
Pavement, permanent,	23,400 00	5,886 18	17,152 77	23,078 95	333 05
Pavement, permanent, Houston Ave.,	5,000 00	769 24	3,356 38	4,116 62	883 38
Personal damages,	2,000 00	225 00	725 00	950 00	1,050 00
Police department,	119,560 97	10,169 97	63,573 17	74,684 14	45,236 83
Police department, new patrolmen,	5,013 75	247 50	2,655 50	2,903 00	2,115 75
Police department, special back pay,	3,361 61	.....	9,261 61	9,261 61	.....
Rock Oil,	1,000 00	.....	1,000 00	1,000 00	.....
Salaries,	11,920 00	897 60	6,150 00	7,047 50	4,872 50
Sewer cleaning,	1,000 00	.....	370 84	370 84	629 16
Sewer construction,	43,658 15	3,982 82	40,385 25	46,668 15	.....
Sewer repairs,	4,000 00	4 50	1,141 22	1,145 72	2,854 28
Sewer well cleaning,	5,000 00	404 13	2,910 00	3,214 13	1,685 87
Sidewalks, curb, etc., grading,	2,000 00	.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	.....
Sidewalks, curb and gutter, new,	5,000 00	.....	3,962 76	3,962 76	1,037 24
Sidewalks, curb and gutter, repairs,	2,500 00	1 10	2,498 90	2,500 00	.....
Sinking fund,	14,000 00	.....	14,000 00	14,000 00	.....
Street cleaning,	48,200 00	4,278 46	29,901 78	34,180 24	14,119 76
Street dept., removing snow from walks,	500 00	.....	.....	.....	500 00
Street department, salaries,	3,100 00	358 33	1,549 98	1,808 31	1,291 69
Street department, road rollers,	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00	4,000 00	.....
Street department, sprinkling,	25,865 00	2,282 79	17,936 04	28,218 83	5,646 17
Street grading,	2,000 00	.....	2,000 00	2,000 00	.....
Street grading, Madison Ave.,	2,000 00	174 10	1,588 23	1,772 33	227 67
Street grading, William St.,	1,000 00	914 15	85 10	1,000 00	.....
Surveying,	13,331 00	849 95	8,943 39	9,793 34	4,137 66
Trees, removal of,	1,000 00	.....	1,000 00	1,000 00	.....
Water supply,	15,000 00	.....	5,824 28	5,824 28	6,265 72
Watering troughs,	150 00	.....	139 19	139 19	10 81
Totals,	\$1,057,498 88	\$78,606 97	\$664,384 15	\$747,051 09	\$314,447 79